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THE ACADEMIC REVIEW.

Brigham Young Academy, Provo, Ptah.

VOL. I.

OCTOBER, 1884.

NO. 1.

PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE, BRIGHAM YOUNG ACADEMY, September 20, 1884.

The Polysophical Society, under whose auspices this paper is published, has edited a manuscript paper during several academic years, but it has been found, after due consideration, that a paper in a printed form, and with several changes suggested by experience, would prove of greater advantage to our friends and students. The President of the Polysophical Society will be Editor-in-Chief of the Academic Review, and all correspondence should be addressed to him.

KARL G. MAESER.

DOINGS OF THE POLYSOPHICAL SOCIETY.

The above named society was founded by Principal K. G. Maeser during the second term of the second academic year, with an aim to supply to the students opportunites for public training, and the means of obtaining useful incidental instruction. A course of unlooked for success has attended its career from then till now; and its numerous beneficiaries speak its praises by words, not more than by the keen interest manifested in all its doings.

The re-organization meeting of the society for the ninth academic year, was held in the Collegiate Department of the Academy, on the evening of September 5. After usual preliminaries, Principal Karl G. Maeser formally appointed from amongst the Faculty, James E. Talmage, as President of the Society; and Joseph B. Keeler and Willard Done as Chairmen

of Sections A and B respectively. The President took the chair and called for speeches from former officers and members who were present, and the responses to the call expressed much as to the appreciation of the labors of former years.

The society is divided at present into Section A, which treats on science and literature, and Section B, which has for its field music and the fine arts. Meetings of the Sections are held weekly, the programmes for which are arranged so as to secure a profitable mixture of recreation and useful information; whilst at convenient intervals joint sessions are called, in the exercises of which all sections participate. Section C for political science and civil government will be organized as soon as deemed advisable during the winter. The sections have thus far met as follows:

Sept. 12—Section A. Readings and musical selections by members of the Society.

Lecture by Principal Karl G. Maeser—"Was it Shakespeare or Bacon?"

SEPT. 19—Section B. Music, recitations and readings by members.

Lecture by President J. E. Talmage, on "Art and Science."

Sept. 26—Section A. Literary exercises and music by members.

Lecture by Chairman J. B. Keeler, on "Science and Religion."

Oct. 3—Section B. Music and readings by members.

Lecture by N. L. Nelson on "Poetry."

The Academic Review,

Pablished in eight numbers per Academic Year by the

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of the

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SALUTATORY.

For several academic years, the Polysophical Society of this Academy has prepared at intervals a manuscript paper, bearing the name of the "Academic Monthly." The numbers appeared with a regularity which was not particularly striking, and each edition delighted in the possession of an editor entirely uninjured by wear, or soured in temper by the vicissitudes of past experience; but the editor, (or editor-ess, as the case oftener was), enjoyed a consolation which the quill-driver of the Review cannot truthfully say he experiences; and that was the assurance that all for whom the Monthly was prepared knew was in it, for the labors of the editorial mind did not cease till the whole paper had been read to the assembled crowd.

'Tis perfectly plain that such an order of literary proceedure could be nothing less than a deliberately executed design against the students' liberty, (which at best is not of colossal dimensions), for the contents of the "Monthly" were crowded upon every inhabitant of our academic world, irrespective of any in-

dividual likes or dislikes for that classic sheet.

It was after due consideration of the above described outrage, and the impressive resignation with which the victims submitted to its five years' infliction, that our worthy society, soon after its reorganization for the present year, felt its Polysophical bosom throb with the heroic resolution of endeavoring to partly atone for such terrible disregard of the American freedom of former members by publishing the journal in such shape that it may be read by everyone who desires (and pays a dollar a year) and by none others.

But the ancient Monthly is defunct, and with a Phænix-like resurrection, the Academic Review hereby springs into existence. Its aims and hopes were set forth in the "Prospectus" which was issued by the President of the Polysophical Society on Sept. 20, and from that we reprint the following:

"The organ will be known as the Ac-ADEMIC REVIEW, and will appear in eight numbers per year, or two per academic term, each number consisting of eight large octavo pages of reading matter in a neat cover. It is intended to give currency in the Review to notes of chief events in the scientific and literary world, to present an epitome of topics of the day, to preserve for reference synopses of proceedings in meetings of the Society, and abstracts of public lectures delivered under its auspices. The columns will also be open to make known wants of teachers and school trustees, and to record the current labors of graduates, and of students in the missionary field.

Issuing as it does from an organization within the Academy, it would be needless to state that the Academic Review will in every respect be strictly conformable to the spirit, plan and aims of the institution."

THE ACADEMY.

The first half of the present term has just closed. Its course has been one of continual and peaceful success. Surprise is the order of the day as returning students view our new quarters for the first time. The authorities of the Academy were unceasing in their efforts during the summer vacation in preparations for the autumn opening, and credit is accorded them on every side. Present accommodations are as superior to those of the old premises, as we expect the new building to exceed these. An easy seating capacity for four hundred and twenty-five students is provided; and the arrangement of all department rooms on a single floor, gives us a convenience never before enjoyed. Any permanent hindrance to the labors of the institution, as a result of the recent destructive fire, will be a novelty when such appears. The single floor area of the Z. C. M. I. building, in which the Academy is located, is 160 feet x 58 feet, and the second story is partitioned off by double and filled walls into the five large department rooms, the library and the Principal's office; while on the lower floor are fitted up the music room and the laboratory. Fortunately the musical instruments and most of the physical apparatus were saved at the time of the fire; and such minor injuries and losses as were sustained, have been remedied by the commendable efforts of the Faculty and the Board of Trustees.

Prominent among the departments which have been especially favored in the new location is the Scientific. It possesses a tolerably convenient laboratory, with a private office and apparatus room attached; and at the present an enlargement or addition to the laboratory is in contemplation to meet the demands of the unusually large and in-

creasing scientific classes. An addition to the analytical apparatus is expected to arrive shortly, and it is hoped at an early day to open a course of instruction in practical assaying. The merits of the department are borne testimony to by the numerous applications made upon it for analytical work and professional advice.

The library suffered severely from the flames, but the generous efforts of friends of the Academy are bending toward the replacement of losses, and the reestablishment of the library upon a firm and useful basis.

Even thus early in the year, the normal class has been filled, and as many applicants for attendance under the Church and County appropriation had to be refused as were accepted. A considerable number are now attending independent of the appropriations, and many others have given notice of their intention of becoming normal students at the commencement of the next term.

It would be beyond our present scope to attempt a description of each department, while the extended accounts through the current periodicals have rendered such description uncalled for here.

The attendance is increasing daily, and the prayerful expectations of all concerned point toward the present academic year as among the most prosperous and successful of any in the history of the Brigham Young Academy.

An Academic student was heard to remark when a lesson in punctuation was announced, "What's the use of studying punctuation, sanyway? Look at Mr. B--, he is the most punctual man in the world, and he never studied punctuation in all his life."

The Bible was first divided into chapters in the year 1253.

WAS IT SHAKESPEARE OR BACON?

Principal Karl G. Maeser delivered a lecture on the above subject before Section A at its first session, held Sept. 12. The lecture related to the history of the controversy that began about half a century ago, commencing with an article in "Chamber's Journal," and followed by the assiduous labors of Miss Delia Bacon, the endorsements of Lord Palmerston, Judge Holmes and others. He enumerated the reasons brought forth by the socalled Baconians to substantiate their position. That in the Shakespearean period no character was known in history to whom possibly could be ascribed works of such sublimity as those of Shakespeare, except Lord Francis Bacon and Sir Walter Raleigh; the latter's train of thought, however, was so well defined and known, that the idea of ascribing to him the authorship of the Shakespearean plays could be at once dismissed. Lord Bacon, on the other hand, seems to have possessed all the requisites for such an authorship. If so remarkable a genius had lived at any time, he could not have remained unappreciated and unknown, any more than the two distinguished men already mentioned. The man Shakespeare, himself does not seem to have possessed any of these characteristics indispensable to a man who can produce such works; phrenological investigation of his bust and portrait would discountenance the possibility of great genius; the very nature of the works demonstrates the necessity of deep erudition; features in the plays show a profound knowledge of law which none but a professional could have acquired; the political questions involved in some of the plays necessitate a thorough acquaintance with English history at a time when none as yet had been written outside of the Archives, to which only officials and courtiers could have access; the elegant and diplomatic language employed in many instances could at that time not have been employed but by one that was accustomed to move in such circles; the many metaphysical allusions indicate a mind fully posted in regard to the progress which science had made at his time; the great familiarity with language, customs, characters, and laws of foreign nations as illustrated in some of the plays, testify to foreign travels and direct observation; the extensive knowledge of an almost unlimited variety of things and ideas necessitates the possession of an extensive library; the sound, philosophical reasoning demonstrate conclusively the frequent intercourse with men of thought and learning; and finally the earnest allusions to the Scripture and the divinity from a devout spirit of the author-none of these points corresspond in any way with the biography or character of the man Shakespeare as far as known. There are further, hundreds of passages in the Shakespearean works which are either identical in the very words or at least in idea with passages in the works of Bacon. The question is not yet solved, however, to the satisfaction of either party; the principal objection to the Baconian theory is the motive which Lord Francis Bacon or any other real author of those plays could possibly have had to hide himself behind another man. In answer to this point nothing but vain hypotheses have been advanced thus far.

ART AND SCIENCE.

Was the subject of a lecture by President James E. Talmage at the opening session of Section B, held September 19. Science is analogous to theory; art to practice. Art, therefore, depends largely upon the facilities of manipulation. The discoveries of sawing marble, soldering iron and easting bronze are among

the most important in the progress of art. The earlier monuments of Greek art are faulty even to the eve of the novice; for then stone was not made the sculptor's medium; and the limited circumference of the tree trunk gave to the figures a disproportionately narrow and generally stiff appearance. The folds of drapery were all perpendicular and parallel to follow the grain. Neither Guttenberg nor his cotemporaries invented printing, but only the art of printing. The theory or science of printing had been in his day long known; as witness the numerous coins and medals of much earlier times—all produced by the taking of impressions from type. The difficulty which so long prevented the application of printing to book making was the want of a suitable fabric to receive the impression. The invention and perfection of paper are significant landmarks in the history of printing.

man who squanders bodily strength without regard to the laws of health shows himself unschooled in the science of living; whilst the ascetic, to whose extremely theoretical mind every enjoyment is a frivolity, is as profoundly ignorant of the art of living. The aim of imitative art is not to copy nature, but the ideal of nature. The adage, "Nature is the artist's standard, and truth his chief aim" should now be assigned to the scientist; 'tis he who deals with details irrespective of their pleasing or other accompaniments. A celebrated landscape painter was once told by his admirers that they were unable to see in the original the beauties which his pictures showed, and he answered "Perhaps not; but don't you wish you could?" Art and science have equally expansive fields of use and benefit; each is the compliment of its fellow; "useless each without the other."

The Academy never has had better boarding facilities than at present.

SCIENCE AND RELIGION.

Chairman Jos. B. Keeler, in his lecture before the Society, on the above named subject, laid down the proposition that there is no disagreement between true science and religion, but that there is a conflict between science-so-called and religion-so-called.

Much of what is called science is only theory, and the student should be careful not to accept theories as demonstrated truths. Many scientific men seek by their science to overturn orthodox religion, and also statements of the Bible. While they are partially successful with the former, their efforts have proved futile when assailing the latter. Science is the systematic arrangement of knowledge, and knowledge is the perception of truth; therefore, knowledge—or science founded on truth—can never be antagonistic with itself.

True religion is also a science, and its principles pertain to man's moral and spiritual nature and his ultimate salvation. These principles, too, are in perfect harmony with the true science of the natural world. Then there can possibly be no war between true science and religion; but discord occurs only where ignorance supplants knowledge. The truths of nature—or the sciences—the revealed truths of heaven—or religion—like streams of living water, forever flow peacefully onward.

THE "BODY" FAMILY.

Mr. Editor:—I am a peaceful citizen, but have my likes and dislikes as everybody else, and hearing of the starting of your paper without any political bias, I concluded to ventilate my grievances before you, calculating that neither Democrats nor Republicans can take umbrage at my complaints on the grounds of party interests.

The fact is, I am surrounded in my

part of the country by members of a very large family, rejoicing in the name of "Body," and some of them have taken it upon themselves to control my doings in a way which I, as an American citizen, will not tamely submit to, and therefore protest in these lines against their presumption. I may as well state at the outset, that I am not personally acquainted with any of them which makes my situation the more intolerable.

There is an individual belonging to that family who is treated by all my friends with the utmost contempt; but he is the only one of the tribe toward whom I entertain an approach to friendly feeling, and that on account of his phenomenal harmlessness. When, for instance, I am startled by some sudden noise outside my room, apprehensive of some unwelcome visitor, and one of my friends returns from the door with the comforting assurance, "Oh, it was No Body," I thank my stars that it was only that harmless individual passing by instead of some other member of the hateful clan. I, therefore, cannot coincide with my friends when they compare some insignificant, but presumptious chap, with a No Body, and the more so as he is generally made the scapegoat for all neglects in the saving "It's No Body's business."

But there is a fellow belonging to that family who, if he is not a detective, a policeman, or a critic of some literary journal, he certainly has missed his calling. Just think for a moment, if perchance I let fall some unguarded word or venture an opinion about the queer doings of some influential citizen, I am stopped at once with uplifted finger by one of my friends—"But, if Any Body should hear you." Who is Mr. Any Body that he dares to throw the shadow of his influence even into the sanctum of

my family circle? I should like to know.

There is another precious limb of that obnoxious tree which has caused many throbbings of the pulse and sickenings of the heart; it is no less an individual than Every Body Esq. What he has ever done to raise himself up to be the umpire in every day disputes, the court of final resort, as it were, where all further controversy stops, every mystery is at an end, and every secret becomes superfluous, is yet to be discovered by some future savan, to whom the deciphering of the cunieform or of hieroglyphics will be mere child-play. When, for instance, I flatter myself to have advanced some original idea in one of my conversations, I am coolly informed that Every Body has known that already; or when I attempt to astonish the natives by some feat in gymnastics, I am laughingly told Every Body can do that; or when I rush some fine morning into the editor's sanctum with some important news, expecting to earn the compliments of that scribe for my alacrity, he tells me that Every Body knows it before this.

There is now the last of that ilk, whom I thus politely denounce as a presumptious impostor, it is the Hon. Some Body. "Oh, if Some Body should know that;" or "Some Body should see to that," or "Some Body will get hurt"—these are exclamations ringing daily in my ears, as if Some Body was the pivot of the Universe, the head centre of all common interest, the grand master of all concerns.

I have done with my complaints, for No Body will be the only one who will read them; Every Body will ignore them; Any Body scarcely look at them, and Some Body call them foolish.

GRUNDY.

Flattery is like cologne water, to be smelled of, not swallowed.

PLUNDER.

The PLUNDER column of the Review is intended to give brief mention of the chief items of investigation, discovery and news, as culled from current periodicals, and reported in the sessions of the Polysophical Society.

A new style of postal note has been issued by the Postoffice Department, as the ink used in the preparation of the old form has been shown to be of a poisonous nature.

At the recent Philadelphia meeting of the American Association for Advancement of Science, it was announced, among many other interesting and mostly abstract points, that the rage for Indian relics has become so great, that regular factories for their production are in operation by the "pale faces." So extensive is the trade, that not less than 2,000 stone axes were made in Philadelphia alone during the past year, which were shipped West, duly "discovered," and sold as genuine articles.

October is an especially favorable month for star-gazing, and the history of this month for 1884 will be particularly rich in astronomical phenomena. On the 6th there occurs the conjunction of Venus and Jupiter. The latter planet is in very favorable position for observation. On the 26th the moon occults Beta Capricorni-a star of the third magnitude. The immersion of the star takes place at 19 minutes after 9 (standard time) and the body remains hidden from view nearly an hour. A total eclipse of the moon occurs on the 4th and a partial eclipse of the sun on the 18th, both being invisible in the United States.

A recent article in *Ciel et Terre* from the pen of M. Houzeau, the director of the Brussels Astronomical Observatory, re-awakens interest in the question as to whether our fair neighbor, Venus, is accompanied by a moon or not. Seven times between 1740 and 1764 a small, bright body was observed near Venus and bearing a phase similar to that of a planet. No farther appearance was noted till the 3rd of February last. As the result of calculations upon the times of the unknown's appearances, M. Houzeau hazards a conjecture that the little body is a very small planet revolving outside, and near to, the orbit of Venus, and perhaps an escaped satellite of the latter. Neith is the name given to this problematic addition to our planetary family.

The present year chronicles for the first time since 1865 the spread of the Asiatic cholera across the Red Sea. The infection was conveyed on a free-license vessel from Bombay to Suez, and in a few days Lower Egypt was prostrated. To the surprise of most people, the wires soon flashed the news that the dread pestilence had appeared in Toulon, and since then the dispatches have daily increased in number and horror. Scientific investigation has been instituted and has confirmed the belief that the cholera poison is of danger only when taken into the stomach, and the extremely stringent and quite as disagreeable methods of fumigating passengers in the infected districts have been abolished as useless. But other facts have been proved and among them that a healthy body, scrupulous cleanliness, regular and careful habits and a hopeful mind are the best precautions against the grim malady.

A French savan named Dr. Plongeon, has succeeded during his long sojourn in Central America and Yucatan, in translating the inscriptions on ancient ruins there, discovering that they are in the Maya language, which is partly spoken yet by some Indian tribes in those countries; and is identical, he asserts, with the New Egyptian, spoken very exten-

sively even outside of Egypt, in Judea, for instance, before the destruction of Jerusalem under Zedekiah, and understood by some persons till the time of Christ. The doctor thinks he has discovered a new version of one of the last utterances of our Savior on the cross-"Eli, Eli, lama, sabachthani," which he declares to be wrongly quoted and misrepresented by the historians, maintaining that the words were spoken in the Maya language as follows: "Hele, Hele, lama, sabac ta ni," which truly translated is, "Now, now, I am fainting, darkness covers my face." If Dr. Plongeon is right, the characters on the plates. translated by the Prophet Joseph Smith, would receive another evidence of their authenticity.

KERNELS.

One of the Normal students declares that his chum is like the moon—always gets round to his last quarter once a month.

Our professor of logic saw a cat chasing her tail, and remarked, "She is simply feline her way to a categorical conclusion."

Note from Theology class: The Creator never intended miracles to refute infidelity; His simpler works do that. A miracle is a loud voice addressed to those who are hard of hearing.

A novice in Wall Street speculation recently complained of having invested a large sum of money and lost it all. A sypathetic friend asked if he had been a bull or a bear. He replied, "Neither; I was a jackass."

A member of the Fine Arts section, while arguing the superiority of the old architecture over the new, tried this convincing argument: "Where will you find any modern building that has lasted as long as the ancient?"

A moral character is attached to autumnal scenes; the leaves falling like our years, the flowers fading like our hours, the clouds fleeting like our illusions, the light diminishing like our intelligence, the sun growing colder like our affections, the rivers becoming frozen like our lives—all bear secret relations to our destinies.—Chateaubriand.

Poetry is the regulated effervescence of the brain. It is part of the excitement which takes place beyond the demands for natural wants and thus displays itself in flights called imagination, and in eccentricities often productive of much personal inconvenience in the ordinary intercourse of life.

HOME MENTION.

A large influx of new students occurred at the beginning of the second half term.

The joint session of the Polysophical Society was held on the evening of Oct. 10. The attendance was large and the programme particularly attractive.

A large corps of workmen are constantly busy on the site of the new Academy buildings. The contract is that the basement story shall be complete this fall.

Elder William M. Palmer, President of the Northwestern States Mission, addressed the Missionary Meeting on Sunday, Sept. 28. His discourse on missionarp labor was both interesting and instructive.

Bro. Benjamin Cluff, Jr., our Instructor of Mathematics is now convalescent from the very severe attack of illness by which he has been prostrated since July last. His many friends welcome him among us again.

The Academy is awaiting the arrival of a consignment of chemical apparatus from the East, including an analytical balance. It is intended before long to open an assay office in connection with the Scientific Department.



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